

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please replace the paragraph at page 1, lines 10-25 with the following paragraph:

Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company has recently introduced a friction control material for use on glove and handle wrap applications which facilitates high slip resistance in the direction of shear, in wet or dry conditions. This material, known as GREPTILE™ gripping material is commercially available in sheet and strip form. The material has a surface defined by an array of elastomeric uniformly shaped upstanding stems which are highly flexible. When a normal force is applied to the stem array surface, the stems deform and bend over, thereby increasing the effective surface area of the gripping material relative to applied shear forces. The material thus presents an aggressive friction control surface. When used with a like material in an opposed relation, the stems of the two materials interengage, thereby presenting even more surface area to each other for relative frictional interface. The stems do not interlock, however, so virtually zero peel force is required to separate the two opposed stem arrays. This material is more fully disclosed in pending U.S. patent application serial number 09/637,567, now U.S. Patent No. 6,610,382 (which is incorporated by reference herein), commonly owned by the applicant herein, 3M Innovative Properties Company.